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REMARKS**Language amended responsive to Examiners comments:**

Claims 1 and 7 are amended to replace the term "desk-top type" with "compact", and further amended to remove limitations regarding the portion of support provided by the two tubular duct portions, incorporating language "...contribute substantially to structural support...".

Claim 6 is amended to eliminate the limitation "minor" regarding structural support contributed by the support strut.

Responsive to the Rule 122 rejection of claims 1-6 and 10-11, for clarity and uniformity the term "console" has been eliminated in the claims (deleted in claims 1, 5, 6, 7 and 11) as potentially confusing since the term "console" is not definitive, having several different dictionary meanings and interpretations. As retained in the title and claim 7 preamble of the present application, "console" refers to the entire unit including the compact enclosure containing the electronics, the U-shaped tube and the base platform. "compact" as applied to the enclosure implies that it requires support from a desk-top, table top or stand of some kind as opposed to much larger *floor-based* enclosures such as in the cited references e.g. Sharp et al, Lundrum et al and Wintersteen et al.

Claim 1 has been amended to eliminate a dimensional limitation of the tubular duct legs relative to enclosure height that was objected to in the OA as new matter; instead, the tubular duct is now defined as "constituting a heat dissipater with a tubular external surface totally exposed directly to room air and providing internally a major portion of a closed loop air passageway...". This definition is fully supported from the specification (e.g. page 2 line 31 to page 3 line 15) and is clearly evidenced in FIGs. 1 and 2, and, as merely making explicit what was implicit, does not constitute new matter.

Claim 1 as amended is believed to overcome the Rule 103(a) rejection citing and thus claim 1 is deemed allowable along with

dependent claims 2-6, 10 and 11, since the cited references taken individually or in combination fail to disclose, teach, show, suggest or render obvious applicants claimed "...duct unit...constituting a heat dissipater whose external surface is *tubular in shape* and is *totally exposed directly to environmental room air*, and whose internal region constitutes a *major portion* of a closed loop air passageway that includes said duct unit and the enclosure...".

The Sharp et al references, with or without combination with other references not only fall outside the scope of structure defined in claim 1 but would also fail enablement regarding the claimed invention, since Sharp et al requires a more costly structure and complex heat exchanger in the plinth, requiring blowers and filters that are exposed to room air at input and output ports for the heat exchanger (or alternatively water cooling), thus failing to meet the objectives of the claimed invention i.e. to avoid such blowers and filters exposed to room air because of the high maintenance required, and to protect the electrical/electronics components from harsh industrial environments encountered in applicant's particular field of endeavor, i.e. X-ray inspection of containerized food products.

New claim 12 depending to claim 1 is presented to define the "substantially airtight" limitation which, while not essential to the basic principles and general practice of the invention, has been included in claim 7 as potentially desirable and important in particular harsh environments, e.g. where hose-driven wash-down with liquid cleaning substances or other atmospheric contamination could expose the electronic components to harmful corrosion or other degradation.

Other minor language amendments have been made for clarity and uniformity.

With regard to the Examiner's request for "the prior art known to applicant" (inventor): in response to agents recent request for further detailed information regarding prior versions of control units made by his company that have now been replaced

by the present invention, the inventors signed responsive statement is appended as ATTACHMENT 1A. In lieu of drawing requested by the Examiner, the accompanying photo representation ATTACHMENT 1B submitted by the applicant/inventor as the best illustration readily available, depicts an X-ray inspection control console assembly that was the precedent of the present invention. The support stand shown, a simple tripod-based tubular vertical column was used in lieu of a desk-top or table-top to support the compact enclosure containing the control electronics, Cooling was implemented by a conventional finned aluminum heat sink mounted onto an opening in the rear of the enclosure, not visible in this view.

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SUMMARY/ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In summary, it is believed that all objections, rejections and issues raised by the Examiner have been addressed and overcome, that no new matter has been added and that pending claims 1-12 as hereby presented are in condition for reconsideration after final OA at the Examiners discretion, and that they merit allowance. Such action is hereby earnestly requested.

No fee is seen as required at this time.

Respectfully submitted,


by J. E. McTaggart

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ATTACHMENT 1A

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To the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

12/22/2006

Regarding pending patent application # 10/606,078:

As inventor named in this patent application I hereby declare that I am the original inventor of subject application for the claimed invention based on an original concept I developed as an effective solution to solve a set of problems.

We design and build X-ray food inspection equipment for industry, including a controller with internal electronics rated about 200 watts in a custom stainless steel enclosure. For several reasons including cost, we make the enclosure relatively small (not floor-based as in the cited 6,506,111 Sharp et al patent) and prior to the present invention, supported the enclosure with a floor stand such as the tripod (see attachment) to support it at a suitable height for operator convenience.

Prior to the present invention there were conflicting problems in efficiently dissipating the heat while keeping the enclosure air-tight to protect the electronics from a harsh industrial environment which includes hose-sprayed antiseptic cleaning liquid that is potentially corrosive and damaging to electronic components. The requirement for air-tightness rules out the conventional use of filters, blowers or fans utilizing room air as found in most computers and as shown in the 6,506,111 Sharp et al patent as an alternative to water cooling.

In our previous use of external finned aluminum heat sinks (due to poor thermal properties of the stainless steel enclosure) fastened over openings required in the enclosure we experienced problems of corrosion and loss of air-tightness allowing entry of moisture, e.g. cleaning liquid, exposing the electronic components to risk of corrosion, degradation and failure.

My solution, which solved all of these problems economically, was to make the two front legs of a tripod serve also as heat dissipaters in the form of the U-shaped tube of the claimed invention serving dual purpose of support and very effectively heat dissipation: the closed loop internal air circulation system positively seals out moisture, e.g. hose-sprayed cleaning liquids and other potential corrosives.

In my mind there is nothing novel or patentable about the control unit enclosure or its contained electronic circuitry apart from the configuration of its bottom panel which, in a commercial enclosure, would have required adaptive modification to interconnect with the U-shaped tube of my invention, regarding which I am unaware of any pertinent prior art other than that discussed above, and that already discovered and disclosed.

Yours very truly,

Signed

Alex Gilevich, Director of Engineering

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